

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were examined by the Office, and in the Office Action of July 21, 2009 all claims are rejected. With this response claims 1, 7, 13 and 16-21 are amended. All amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the following discussion.

Claim Objections

In section 4, on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 13, 16 and 21 are objected to due to informalities. With this response, claims 1, 13, 16 and 21 are amended as suggested by the Office in order to correct the informalities. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to claims 1, 13, 16 and 21.

Specification

In section 5, on page 3 of the Office Action, the Abstract is objected to because it contains legal phraseology. The Abstract is amended to remove the phrase “means,” and therefore applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract.

In section 6, on page 3 of the Office Action, the specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. The Office asserts that the specific does not provide antecedent basis for the limitation “computer readable medium.” It is understood to one of skill in the art that a computer readable medium corresponds to a memory. The specification specifically discusses a memory at page 13, line 26—page 14, line 5. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that the specification provides proper support for the limitation “computer readable medium.”

Claim Rejections Under § 112

In section 8, on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 7 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 7 and 17-20 are amended to recite “a memory block,” and to correct “said removing.” Therefore, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection to claims 7 and 17-20.

Claim Rejections Under § 101

In section 10, on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 15-16 and 19-20 are rejected

under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office asserts that “a computer readable medium” should be interpreted to include non-statutory embodiments. However, as discussed above it is understood to one of skill in the art that computer readable medium corresponds to memory and memory devices, which as acknowledged by the Office are statutory. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections to claims 15-16 and 19-20.

Claim Rejections Under § 103

In section 13, on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nishizawa (U.S. Appl. Publ. No. 2002/0004734) in view of Dean et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,167,379), and in further view of Parker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,458,080). Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references, because the cited references fail to disclose or suggest all of the limitations recited in claim 13. The cited references, alone or in combination, at least fail to disclose or suggest receiving instructions for silencing alarms of the found one or more overlapping events by one command, and silencing the alarms of the one or more overlapping events, as recited in claim 13. For at least this reason, claim 13 is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

The Office acknowledges on page 6 that Nishizawa and Dean do not teach receiving instructions for silencing alarms of the found one or more overlapping events by one command and silencing the alarms of the found one or more overlapping events, and relies upon Parker for this teaching. However, Parker also fails to disclose or suggest this limitation of claim 13. Claim 13 specifically recites “receiving instructions for silencing alarms of the found one or more overlapping events by one command.” Therefore, as recited in claim 13, the silencing of alarms is specific to the found one or more overlapping events. This is in contrast to Parker, which uses notification profiles to handle the use of notifications in particular situations. However, the notification profiles are not specific to found one or more overlapping events. Instead, the system may incorporate an “off” profile which effectively turns all notifications off, or profiles may provide for certain notification types for only specific notification events. See Parker column 6, lines 57-62.

For example, upon occurrence of a calendar-related event, Parker determines whether a predetermined notification mode has been set for the event. See Parker column 9, lines 25-27. If it is determined that a predetermined notification mode has been set for the calendar event, a selected mode is automatically applied to the computer device and any subsequent

notifications are presented to the user according to the selected mode. See Parker column 9, lines 41-44. Upon the completion of the calendar event, the device is automatically switched back to the previous notification mode. See Parker column 9, lines 45-47. Therefore, the notification mode selected in Parker is dependent upon what type of calendar event is currently occurring, and the notification mode is applied to the entire computer device. However, claim 13 recites that the alarms are silenced for the found one or more overlapping events, and the silencing is in response to finding one or more overlapping events. Therefore, in claim 13, the silencing is specific to the alarms for the one or more overlapping events, and is not applied to the entire computer device as in Parker. Accordingly, Parker fails to make up for the deficiencies in the teachings of Nishizawa and Dean identified by the Office, and the cited references fail to disclose or suggest all of the limitations recited in claim 13.

Independent claims 1 and 21 contain limitations similar to those recited in claim 13, and therefore are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 13.

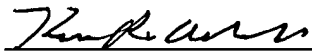
The dependent claims rejected above all ultimately depend from an independent claim. Therefore the dependent claims are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references at least in view of their dependencies.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge Deposit Account No. 23-0442 for any fee deficiency required to submit this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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